NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS BUILDING STRONG®

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Contact:
Carol Labashosky 502.315-6769
Carol.j.labashosky@usace.army.mil

Corps' Cave Run Reservoir still has room for rainfall

Louisville, Ky. -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will begin normal controlled releases from Cave Run Reservoir Saturday morning, May 8. The Corps will slowly increase releases through the weekend and into early next week, the goal being to evacuate excess runoff water stored during the May 1-2 rainfall. This is standard operational procedure for a Corps flood control lake.

The Cave Run Lake, Morehead, Ky., is currently at 743.3 feet m.s.l. (mean sea level) or 31.52 percent full as of Thursday, May 6. Flood pool level is 765 m.s.l.

At this time, Cave Run Lake is still providing flood damage reduction benefits from the 7.5-8 inches of rain that fell over the weekend at the lake. The dam is fully operational and safe.

Rainfall and the resulting runoff from the lake's watershed along the Licking River flow directly into the lake. Runoff is stored until the downstream river conditions allow for safe discharge. Water releases are accomplished under controlled conditions which do not cause impacts to downstream areas. The lake is currently releasing a negligible110 cubic feet per second (c.f.s.).

The Cave Run Lake reservoir provides flood protection benefits for the downstream areas in Rowan, Harrison, Bath and Fleming counties, Pendleton and other downstream areas.

The lake has provided more than $4.376 million in flood damage reduction benefits since it was built in 1974.

For information on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District lake levels, go to www.lrl.usace.army.mil. On the left hand margin of the homepage, click on Lake/River Reports; then click on Daily Lake Reports in the center of the page. More information on May 2010 flooding may be found at http://bit.ly/Mayflood.

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